

**LEGISLATION AND GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE
ASSOCIATION OF BAY AREA GOVERNMENTS**

Thursday, September 18, 2008

Summary Minutes

Members Present:

Councilmember Desley Brooks, City of Oakland
Councilmember Dan Furtado, City of Campbell
Supervisor Rose Jacobs Gibson, County of San Mateo, ABAG President
Mayor Jack Gingles, City of Calistoga
Vice Mayor Surlene Grant, City of San Leandro
Supervisor Scott Haggerty, County of Alameda
Councilmember Kasie Hildenbrand, City of Dublin
Supervisor Mike Kerns, County of Sonoma
Supervisor Barbara Kondylis, County of Solano
Supervisor Pete McHugh, County of Santa Clara, **Chair**
Mayor Gwen Regalia, City of Walnut Creek
Mayor Mark Green, Union City, ABAG Vice President

Staff Present:

Henry Gardner—ABAG
Patricia Jones—ABAG
Ken Kirkey—ABAG
Laura Thompson—ABAG
Kathleen Cha – ABAG

- 1. Introductions:** Santa Clara County Supervisor Pete McHugh, L&GO Chair, opened the meeting at 3:40.
- 2. Minutes:** July 17, 2008, minutes were approved.
- 3. 2008 Legislative Session—Bill Update**

The Committee briefly reviewed the 2008 bills considered by the Committee and received a Legislative Summary Report that reflects the status and final amendments to bills enrolled by August 30th.

It was noted that enrolled bills that have passed the Assembly and Senate have not been sent to the Governor as yet. Once sent to the Governor, he has until September 30th to veto or sign into law.

4. Updates on SB 375 and AB 2954

The Committee reviewed SB 375 and AB 2954 and discussed their impact on the region and ABAG:

SB 375 (Steinberg: Transportation Planning: Travel Demand Models: Sustainable Communities Strategy—Environmental Review (Enrolled))

Ken Kirkey, ABAG Planning Director, provided an overview of SB 375, which would require metropolitan planning organizations to include Sustainable Communities Strategies

in their regional transportation plans for the purpose of reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The bill aligns planning for transportation and land use, and creates specified incentives for the implementation of the strategies.

In the specific case of the Bay Area region, the bill also defines how ABAG and MTC will work together in aligning Transportation and Land Use Planning. The bill outlines a collaborative process and direction that this region has already begun in its transportation planning and RHNA processes.

The bill extends the RHNA cycle to 8 years, aligning it with the Regional Transportation Plan. CEQA provisions for developments that will meet the Sustainable Communities Strategies regionally and locally are also adjusted.

There was discussion about this measure's funding companion bill, SB 372. SB 372 establishes the Strategic Growth Council (Council) and requires this Council to manage and award grants and loans to support the planning and development of sustainable communities.

AB 2954 (Lieber & Hancock): San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority (*enrolled*) and its final provisions were discussed:

AB 2954 creates the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority, with the mandate and powers to raise and grant funds for Bay wetland restoration in the nine Bay Area counties.

It establishes the Authority's governance structure, with a board composed of

- Six local elected officials from designated area appointed by ABAG, and a Bay Area resident with expertise in implementation of the California Coastal Conservancy's Bay Area Program who will serve as Chair.

It also establishes a Restoration Advisory Committee with broad community representation, to assist the Authority in carrying out its duties.

Laura Thompson, ABAG Bay Trail Project Manager, answered questions about the scope of the Authority which will focus on wildlife habitat restoration, related public access, recreation, and flood management.

Under Open Agenda: the committee discussed the implications of the budget delay and discussed what cities/counties are doing about energy efficiency like solar panels and neighborhood energy pools. The fact that credit for more energy generated than needed is not available to individual homeowners and businesses with solar panels was an issue of concern.

- 5. Adjourn:** The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.
The next meeting is scheduled for **November 20, 2008.**